EXAMINER'S COMMENTS

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/12/2010 has been entered.

2.   Claims 27-34 and 37-40 have been amended; claims 4-18, 20-22 were previously cancelled. Claims 1-3, 19 and 23-40 remain pending.

3.   Acknowledgement to applicant's amendment to claims 33-38. The claims have been reviewed, entered and found obviating to previously raised claim rejection under 35 USC 101 as being directed to a non-statutory subject matter. Claim rejection to claims 33-38under 35 USC 101 is hereby withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

        Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen Walder (Reg No. 41,534) on 01/10/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

- ***Please replace claim 1 with:***

1.   (Currently amended) A method, in a data processing system, for handling personally identifiable information, said method comprising:

        providing, in a computer <u>of the data processing system</u>, a first set of object classes, of an object model in an object oriented programming language, representing active entities in an information-handling process;

        providing, in said computer, a second object class, of the object model, representing personally identifiable information and associated rules in said information-handling process; and

        processing transactions, in the data processing system, involving said personally identifiable information, using said computer and said first set of object classes and said second object class of the object model, so as to enforce a privacy policy, wherein

        said rules define if and how said personally identifiable information is provided, by a first data user <u>of the data processing system</u> that previously requested the personally identifiable information from an active entity that is personally identifiable by the personally identifiable information, to a second data user <u>of the data processing system</u> that requests said personally identifiable information from the first data user<u>, wherein said second object class, having said rules associated with said data, represents a filled paper form, including both collected data, collected from the active entity and including the personally identifiable information, and rules regarding said collected data specifying if and how the collected data is provided to the second data user, wherein the second data user sends an empty form including a policy to the first data user requesting the personally identifiable information, and wherein the first data user checks the policy included with the empty form to determine if disclosure of the personally identifiable information is permitted based on the policy included with the empty form and the rules regarding the collected data</u>.

- ***Please cancel claim 3;***

- ***Please replace claim 27 with:***

27.   (Currently amended) A computer system for handling personally identifiable information, said computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU), a computer-readable memory, and a computer readable, tangible storage device;

program instructions, stored on the storage device for execution by the CPU via the memory, to provide a first set of object classes, of an object model in an object oriented programming language, representing active entities in an information-handling process;

program instructions, stored on the storage device for execution by the CPU via the memory, to provide a second object class, of the object model, representing personally identifiable information and associated rules in said information-handling process; and

program instructions, stored on the storage device for execution by the CPU via the memory, to process transactions involving said personally identifiable information, using said first set of object classes and said second object class of the object model, so as to enforce a privacy policy, wherein said rules define if and how said personally identifiable information is provided, by a first data user of the computer system that previously requested the personally identifiable information from an active entity that is personally identifiable by the personally identifiable information, to a second data user of the computer system that requests said personally identifiable information from the first data user, wherein said second object class, having said rules associated with said data, represents a filled paper form, including both collected data, collected from the active entity and including the personally identifiable information, and rules regarding said collected data specifying if and how the collected data is provided to the second data user, wherein the second data user sends an empty form

including a policy to the first data user requesting the personally identifiable information, and wherein the first data user checks the policy included with the empty form to determine if disclosure of the personally identifiable information is permitted based on the policy included with the empty form and the rules regarding the collected data.

- ***Please replace claim 33 with:***

33.   (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising a non-transitory computer-readable, tangible storage device and computer-readable program instructions stored on the computer-readable, tangible storage device to handle personally identifiable information, the computer-readable program instructions, when executed by a central processing unit (CPU):

provide a first set of object classes, of an object model in an object oriented programming language, representing active entities in an information-handling process;

provide a second object class, of the object model, representing personally identifiable information and associated rules in said information-handling process; and

process transactions involving said personally identifiable information, using said first set of object classes and said second object class of the object model, so as to enforce a privacy policy, wherein said rules define if and how said personally identifiable information is provided, by a first data user that previously requested the personally identifiable information from an active entity that is personally identifiable by the personally identifiable information, to a second data user that requests said personally identifiable information from the first data user, wherein said second object class, having said rules associated with said data, represents a filled paper form, including both collected data, collected from the active entity and including the personally identifiable information, and rules regarding said collected data specifying if and how the collected data is provided to the second data user, wherein the second data user

sends an empty form including a policy to the first data user requesting the
personally identifiable information, and wherein the first data user checks the
policy included with the empty form to determine if disclosure of the personally
identifiable information is permitted based on the policy included with the empty
form and the rules regarding the collected data.

Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claims 1-2, 19 and 23-40 are allowed.

6.   This communication warrants No Examiner's Reason for Allowance, applicant's
reply make evident the reasons for allowance, satisfying the "record as a whole" proviso
of the rule 37 CFR 1.104(e). Specifically, the substance of applicant's arguments pages
21-22 in view of pages 10-16 filed 10/12/2010 are persuasive, as such the reasons for
allowance are in all probability evident from the record and no statement is deemed
necessary (see MPEP 1302.14).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to HADI S. ARMOUCHE whose telephone number is
(571)270-3618. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30-5:00 and Fridays
half day

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571) 272-3902. The fax phone number
for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/H. A./
HADI ARMOUCHE
Examiner, Art Unit 2432

/Benjamin E Lanier/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2432